

Sherman's store ranks with Wal-Mart's biggest

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in coming until now," he said.

Glass said, "We've wanted to be in Sherman, Texas for years. I don't know why it took so long."

Glass explained that the company's real estate division searched for a location for five years. Normally, he said, "we find an area and in 12 months we're building."

Wilthers, who has managed two other Wal-Mart stores, said the Sherman store is the largest the company builds. There are 36 departments and more than 20 check-out registers.

Wal-Mart, which began in Rogers, Ark., in 1962, now has 925 stores in 22 states. Its founder, Sam Walton of Bentonville, Ark., is reputed to be the wealthiest man in America with a personal worth valued in excess of \$3 billion. Glass said Texas — with 174 — has more than any other state.

A corporate spokesman declined to disclose the total cost of Wal-Mart's investment here, but said the construction alone amounted to \$1.7 million.

Store employees donated \$660 to the Wishing Well Foundation as a gift to the community. Wishing Well representative, Gayle Olivares, said she gift would send a needy family to Disney World.

Wilthers said the store will employ more than 160 persons.

Glass said three other Wal-Marts were opening today in different states.



DAVID GLASS, sees bright future for store, city.

Correction

A typographical error in Sunday's *Sherman Democrat* misrepresented the annual number of visitors to Lake Texoma. According to Corps of Engineers data, more than 10 million people visit Lake Texoma annually.

Sherman Democrat

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